

Platforms of National Nominating Conventions in 1900.

UNITED CHRISTIAN PARTY.

Adopted at Rock Island, Ill., May 2, 1900.

We, the united Christian party, in national convention assembled in the city of Rock Island, Ill., May 1 and 2, 1900, acknowledging Almighty God as the source of all power and authority, the Lord Jesus Christ as the sovereign ruler of nations and the bible as the standard by which to decide moral issues in our political life, do make the following declaration:

We believe the time to have arrived when the eternal principles of justice, mercy and love as exemplified in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ should be embodied in the constitution of our nation and applied in concrete form to every function of our government.

We maintain that this statement is in harmony with the fundamental principles of our national common law, our Christian usages and customs, the declaration of the Supreme court of the United States that "This is a Christian nation" and the accepted principle in judicial decisions that no law should contravene the Divine law.

We deprecate certain immoral laws which have grown out of the failure of our nation to recognize these principles—notably, such as require the desecration of the Christian sabbath, authorize unscriptural marriage and divorce and license the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage.

The execution of these immoral laws above mentioned we hold to be neither loyalty to our country nor honoring to God; therefore it shall be our purpose to administer the government, so far as it shall be intrusted to us by the suffrages of the people, in accordance with the principles herein set forth; and, until amended, our oath of office shall be to the constitution and laws as herein explained and to no other, and we will look to Him who has all power in heaven and in earth to vindicate our purpose in seeking His glory and the welfare of our beloved land.

As an expression of consent or allegiance on the part of the governed, in harmony with the above statements, we declare for the adoption and use of the system of legislation known as the "initiative and referendum," together with "proportionate representation" and the "imperative mandate."

We hold that all men and women are created free and with equal rights, and declare for the establishment of such political, industrial and social conditions as shall guarantee to every person civic equality, the fruits of his or her honest toil and opportunity for the righteous enjoyment of the same; and we especially condemn mob violence and outrages against any individual or class of individuals in our country.

We declare against war, and for the arbitration of all national and international disputes.

We hold that the legalized liquor traffic is the crowning infamy of civilization, and we declare for the immediate abolition of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage.

We are gratified to note the widespread agitation of the cigarette question, and declare ourselves in favor of the enactment of laws prohibiting the sale of cigarettes or tobacco in any form to minors.

We declare for the daily reading of the bible in the public schools and institutions of learning under control of the state.

We declare for the government ownership of public utilities.

We declare for the election of the president and vice-president and United States senators by the direct vote of the people.

We declare for such amendment of the United States constitution as shall be necessary to give the principles herein set forth an undeniable legal basis in the fundamental law of our land.

We invite into the united Christian party every honest man and woman who believes in Christ and His golden rule and standard of righteousness. We say especially to the sons of toil: Jesus, the carpenter's son, is your true friend. In His name and through the practice of His principles you may obtain your rights long withheld and long outraged. You have the votes necessary to enthrone Him. His love and principles, politically applied, will lift you up and give you true civic liberty forever.

The nominees of the convention were: For president, Silas C. Swallow of Pennsylvania; for vice-president, J. G. Woolley of Illinois. Mr. Woolley declined and the Rev. Charles M. Sheldon of Kansas was substituted in his place. He withdrew and D. L. Martin of Pennsylvania was nominated.